

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF GEORGE TOUART

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Northwest Florida's George Touart who passed away on January 24, 2014, after a courageous battle with cancer. Throughout his long career in public service, George Touart mentored and inspired many individuals throughout Escambia County, Florida. The loss of a passionate and hardworking man is truly felt among the Northwest Florida community for which he cared so deeply.

George graduated Pensacola High School in 1966. At the University of Southern Mississippi, he earned his Bachelor of Arts in Community and Regional Planning and was an active member of the Kappa Alpha fraternity. He then received his Master's degree in Public Administration from Troy State University. Before returning home to Florida, George served as a city councilman in Pascagoula, Mississippi, a public information officer for the Mississippi State Highway Department, and as county administrator for two Mississippi counties.

In April 2002, the Escambia County Board of Commissioners appointed George as the Escambia County Administrator. He served in this capacity until December 2007 and then later served as the Interim County Administrator from December 2012 to January 2014. It was during George's role as County Administrator of Escambia County that his admirable dedication proved instrumental in helping the citizens of Northwest Florida recover from the devastating effects of Hurricane Ivan in 2004. Under George's unwavering and efficient leadership in working with both FEMA and the State of Florida, repairs were made to infrastructure, communication was restored, and grants were obtained, all contributing to the county's overall recovery. His hard work garnered national recognition for Escambia County by FEMA. Not only did George exhibit great strength in a time of adversity, but he also provided personal comfort and reassurance to many affected citizens of the community.

During his tenure in office, George also worked with the Pensacola Chamber of Commerce to bring several economic initiatives to Escambia County, such as Navy Federal Credit Union Expansion, Project Evergreen, and Project Pearl. He can also be credited for completing the Escambia County Jail transition under budget as well as negotiating the Interlocal Agreement between Escambia County and the City of Pensacola.

Resonating from within, George had a true sense of community and civic duty. Aside from his leadership with the county, he was involved in a myriad of civic organizations throughout his life, including: Conquistadores,

the Masonic Lodge and the Hadji Shrine, Five Flags Rotary, Irish Politician's Club, Moss Point Young Men's Business Club, Pensacola Chamber of Commerce, United Way of Escambia County, and Baptist Hospital Board of Directors. Additionally, George was a member of Perdido Bay United Methodist Church. In his spare time, he enjoyed golfing, fishing, and hunting. Those whose lives were touched by George mourn the loss of a devoted man with an unwavering commitment to service.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the life of George Touart. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our sincerest condolences and prayers to his wife, Barbara; sons, Matthew and Jacob; daughters, Christy and Amber; seven grandchildren, Meagan, Zackary, Brennan, Ivey, Jack, Mylah, and Carter; and parents, Clyde and Mary. He will truly be missed.

### CONGRATULATING THE NEWMAN-COWETA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS 2013

#### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2014*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of the Coweta County Board of Commissioners and to congratulate the members for receiving the 2013 Prosperity Award. This award—presented by the Newnan-Coweta Chamber of Commerce—honors contributions the commissioners have made toward promoting prosperity in their community. Since 2007 this award has been presented in recognition of 30 different companies and organizations that have made a similar outstanding impact.

The Coweta County Commissioners have demonstrated a clear and enduring commitment to protecting small businesses and encouraging economic growth—most recently through their decision to eliminate impact fees on development in the county. These commissioners are critical to the economic growth in their area and have shown a great lasting commitment to promote the prosperity and betterment of their community. I am proud to have the opportunity to stand before you today to highlight the achievements of my fellow Georgians and to congratulate them on earning the 2013 Prosperity Award.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my thanks to the hard working people of the Coweta County Board for their leadership role in the community, and congratulate them on receiving the 2013 Prosperity Award.

### HONORING AARON DARRAH

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 29, 2014*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aaron Darrah. Aaron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 362, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aaron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aaron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Aaron has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aaron Darrah for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### NO TAXPAYER FUNDING FOR ABORTION AND ABORTION INSURANCE FULL DISCLOSURE ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

#### HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 28, 2014*

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 7, an unnecessary and intrusive bill that represents a short-sighted attack on the rights of women and families, and undermines access to insurance that covers comprehensive women's health care.

H.R. 7 would diminish meaningful access to healthcare for millions of lower and middle income families by denying them tax credits if the insurance plan they choose through the Health Insurance Marketplaces includes coverage for abortion services. Removing these tax breaks for the most vulnerable members of our society is not only dangerous, it is heartless, and it will return a constitutionally-protected medical procedure to its dark back-alley days. If enacted, this change will likely lead insurers to remove coverage for abortion services from all plans offered in the marketplaces, thus denying access to this coverage for women who wish to purchase such coverage out of their own pockets. Rather than offering real solutions to the problems our nation faces, the other side of the aisle only offers a return to the fights over social issues of the past.

Republicans claim that H.R. 7 merely codifies the Hyde Amendment, a provision prohibiting the use of federal funds for most abortion services, but Title I of the bill actually includes

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